CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1. A program selection device which receives a plurality of programs and
2   an EPG (Electronic Program Guide), and selects a particular elementary
3   stream, of a plurality of elementary streams received together with one of
4   the plurality of programs which is selected by a user, comprising:
5   a controller; and
6   a storage section, and
7   wherein said storage section stores a past record of the user viewing
8   programs, in association with a plurality of predetermined types of the
9   programs, and the received EPG, and
10   said controller identifies types of both the selected program and the
11   multiplexed elementary streams in accordance with the EPG, calculates
12   rates at which the user views programs in association with each of the
13   types based on the past record, specifies a type of program based on the
14   calculated rates, and selects an elementary stream corresponding to the
15   specified type, of a plurality of elementary streams which are received
16   together with the selected program.

1   2. A program selection device which receives a plurality of programs and
2   an EPG, and selects a particular elementary stream, of a plurality of
3   elementary streams received together with one of the plurality of programs
4   which is selected by a user, said device comprising:
5   program receiving means for receiving the EPG, the selected
6   program, and the plurality of elementary streams;
7   type identification means for identifying types of both the selected
8   program and the plurality of elementary streams;
9   rate calculation means for calculating rates at which the user views
10   programs in association with a plurality of program types;

11   rate storage means for storing the calculated rates in association with

12 each of the program types; and

13   ES selection means for specifying a program type based on the

14 calculated rates, and selecting an elementary stream of the plurality of

15 elementary streams received by said program receiving means, the

16 elementary stream corresponding to the specified program type.

1 3. The program selection device according to claim 2, wherein:

2   said rate storage means includes a counter for counting a number of

3 times the user views programs in association with the program types; and

4   said rate calculation means increments, every time the user selects a

5 program, a value of the counter corresponding each of the program types

6 by 1, so as to obtain the rates based on the value of the counter.

1 4. The program selection device according to claim 1, wherein, of the

2 plurality of elementary streams which are multiplexed and included in the

3 program selected by the user, an elementary stream corresponding to a

4 most-frequently watched program type is selected based on a calculation

5 of said rate calculation means.

1 5. A program selection method for selecting a particular elementary

2 stream of a plurality of elementary streams received together with one of

3 the plurality of programs which is selected by a user, after receiving a

4 plurality of programs and an EPG, said method comprising:

5   storing a past record of the user viewing programs in association with

6 program types of the programs and the received EPG; and

7   identifying a program type of the selected program including the

8 plurality of elementary streams based on the EPG, calculating rates at

9 which the user views the programs in association with the program types

10 based on the past record, and specifying a program type of a program

11 based on the calculated rates, thereby to select one elementary stream of

12   the plurality of elementary streams corresponding to the specified program

13   type.

1   6. A program selection method for selecting a particular elementary

2   stream of a plurality of elementary streams received together with one of

3   the plurality of programs which is selected by a user, after receiving a

4   plurality of programs and an EPG, said method comprising:

5   receiving a program selected by the user, the plurality of elementary

6   streams and the EPG;

7   identifying a program type of the selected program including the

8   plurality of elementary streams;

9   calculating rates at which the user views the programs in association

10   with a plurality of program types;

11   storing the rates which are calculated in association with the plurality

12   of program types; and

13   specifying a program type based on the calculated rates, thereby to

14   select one elementary stream, corresponding to the specified program type,

15   of the plurality of elementary streams received in said receiving.

1   7. The program selection method according to claim 6, wherein:

2   a counter for counting a number of times the user watches programs

3   in association with the program types is used in said storing; and

4   in said calculating, every time the user selects a program, a value of

5   the counter corresponding to each of the program types is incremented by

6   1, and the rates are obtained based on the value of the counter.

1   8. The program selection method according to claim 5, further comprising

2   selecting, of the plurality of elementary streams which are multiplexed and

3   included in the program selected by the user, an elementary stream

4   corresponding to a most-frequently watched program type based on a

calculation performed in said calculating.

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